



Linda R. Rothstein B.A., LL.B.
Partner

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Linda Rothstein is known for her probing cross-examinations but also for her strategic advice and behind-the-scenes counsel work on high stakes cases.

She is frequently employed by law firms to resolve sensitive internal partnership disputes, as class counsel in complex class actions and by provincial regulators in professional misconduct proceedings. Her high profile work as Commission Counsel to the Inquiry into Pediatric Forensic Pathology, counsel to the City of Toronto in the Computer Leasing Inquiry and lead counsel to the Motherisk Hair Analysis Review have cemented her reputation as one of Ontario's leading advocates.

Representative Work

Linda has a diverse practice, encompassing many areas of civil and administrative litigation, with particular expertise in class actions, commercial litigation, professional liability, public law and appeals.

Her high profile work includes acting as lead counsel to the Motherisk Hair Analysis Independent Review from 2015 to 2016, Commission Counsel to the Inquiry into Pediatric Forensic Pathology in Ontario (the Goudge Inquiry) from 2007 to 2008 and lead counsel for the City of Toronto in the Computer Leasing Inquiry from 2002 to 2005.

Awards and Honours

- 2021 recipient of the *The Advocates' Society* Medal
- Recognized by *Benchmark Litigation* as one of the Top 50 Women in Litigation
- Repeatedly recognized in the *Canadian Legal Expert Directory*:
Most Frequently Recommended:
 - Employment Law – Employee
 - Litigation – Corporate Commercial
 - Litigation – Regulatory & Public Law

Consistently Recommended:
- Class Actions

Repeatedly Recommended:
- Workplace Human Rights - Employee

Education:

University of Toronto, Faculty of Law LL.B., 1980

Dean's List, 1979, 1980;
Administrative Law Prize,
Real Estate Prize, 1979,
International Law Prize, 1980

Bar Admissions:

Ontario, 1982

Professional Affiliations:

American College of Trial Lawyers: Fellow (2002 to Present)
International Academy of Trial Lawyers: Fellow (2012 to Present); Member of Board of Directors (2012 to 2018)
Litigation Counsel of America: Fellow (2011 to Present)
Law Foundation of Ontario Board of Trustees: Chair (2016 to Present); Member (2014 to 2015)
Public Health Ontario Board of Directors: Acting Chair (June 2019 to Present); Vice-Chair (2017 to Present); Member (2014 to 2016)
Harold G. Fox Education Fund Board of Trustees: Member (2013 to Present)
The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History: Director (2015 to Present)
The Law Society of Upper Canada: Toronto Regional Bench (2007 to 2015); Vice-Chair, Hearing Division, Law Society Tribunal (2013 to 2015); Co-Chair, Mentoring and Advisory Services Proposal Task Force (2014); Co-Chair, Tribunals Committee (2010 to 2011); Vice-Chair, Appeal Panel (2011); Chair, Professional Regulation Committee (2008 to 2010)

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Awards and Honours

- Recognized by *Benchmark Litigation* as a Litigation Star and one of the Top 50 Trial Lawyers in Canada
- Recognized by the *Legal 500 Canada guide* as elite “Leading Lawyer” and recommended in the *Legal 500 Canada 2020 editorial* for dispute resolution
- Recognized by *Chambers Canada* in the following specialties: Litigation: General Commercial and Litigation: Administrative & Public Law in Ontario; and Dispute Resolution: Class Actions (Plaintiff) nationwide
- Recognized by the *Who’s Who Legal Canada* as a Thought Leader, Recommended Global Leader and Recommended National Leader in Litigation
- Repeatedly selected by *Best Lawyers in Canada* in six litigation specialties: Bet-the-Company Litigation; Corporate and Commercial Litigation; Administrative and Public Law; Labour and Employment Law; Alternative Dispute Resolution; and Class Actions
- Named by *Benchmark Litigation* as one of the Top 25 Women in Litigation from 2014 to present
- Recognized by the *Lexpert / American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers* from 2016 to present
- Recognized in the *Lexpert Guide to the Leading US / Canada Cross-Border Litigation Lawyers in Canada* as a Leading Cross-Border Litigation Lawyer from 2015 to present
- Recipient of the Ontario Bar Association *Award of Excellence* in Civil Litigation in 2018
- Featured in the *Globe and Mail’s Lexpert / Report on Business Magazine* as a Leading Litigation Lawyer in 2015 and 2018
- Named by *Best Lawyers* as “Lawyer of the Year” in Labour and Employment Law in 2014 and 2017
- Named by *Best Lawyers* as “Lawyer of the Year” in Administrative and Public Law in 2012, 2013 and 2016
- Recipient of the University of Toronto *Distinguished Alumnus Award* in 2014
- Recipient of the *Lexpert Zenith Award* in 2013
- Recognized as a Milvain Lecturer on Advocacy at the University of Calgary in 2010
- Recipient of the Toronto Lawyers’ Association *Award of Distinction* in 2008
- Recipient of the *Law Society Medal* in 2005

Professional Affiliations:

The Advocates’ Society: President (2005 to 2006); First Vice-President (2004 to 2005); Treasurer (2003 to 2004); Vice-Chair, Standing Committee on Collegiality, Mentoring & Membership (2003 to 2004); Board of Directors (1998 to 2003); Vice-Chair, Education Committee (2000 to 2002); Chair, Professional Conduct Committee (1998 to 1999); Faculty Member, The Advocates’ Society Institute, Faculty Training Program (1993 to 1998)

Law Society Compensation Fund: Referee (Adjudicator) (1994 to 2000)

Intensive Trial Advocacy Course, Osgoode Hall Law School: Instructor and Team Leader (for practicing lawyers) (1988 to 2001)

Osgoode Hall Law School: Lecturer and Instructor in Trial Advocacy (for law students) (1989 to 1994)

The Law Society of Upper Canada, Bar Admission Course in Civil Litigation and Trial Advocacy: Instructor (for bar admission students) (1987 to 1990)

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Publications/Presentations

Linda is a much sought after speaker on a wide range of topics in civil litigation, trial advocacy, professional regulation and liability, and employment law and human rights for various continuing education organizations including the Law Society of Upper Canada, Canadian Bar Association of Ontario, the Canadian Institute, Infonex, University of Toronto – Faculty of Law, Osgoode Hall Law School, Queen’s University and the Advocates’ Society.

Select publications include:

- S. Grant, L. Rothstein and S. Campbell, *Lawyers’ Professional Liability*, 3rd ed. (LexisNexis Canada, 2013)
- Law Society of Upper Canada Special Lectures: *Modern Law of Damages*, Co-Chair, April 2005
- Law Society of Upper Canada Special Lectures: “*Balancing Probabilities: The Overlooked Complexity of the Civil Standard of Proof*”, April 2003
- L. Rothstein and M. Shortreed, “Disposition without Trial: A Review of the Application of Ontario’s Rule 20 and 21”, *National Annual Review on Civil Litigation* 2001, M.G. Cochrane and Justice T. Archibald, eds. (Carswell, 2001), pp. 69-81
- S. Grant and L. Rothstein, “Professional Liability” (ch. 9) in D. Lundy, G. MacKenzie and M. Newbury, *Barristers & Solicitors in Practice* (Butterworths, 1998)